

Issuance Date: August 10, 2009

Deadline for Receipt of Questions: August 14, 2009

Closing Dates for Concept Papers:

First Phase September 8, 2009 Second Phase February 26, 2009 Third Phase June 25, 2009

Closing Time for Submission of Concept Papers: 4:00 PM, Local Jakarta time

Submit Concept Papers to: aps09-014@usaid.gov

SUBJECT: ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT (APS) NUMBER

INDONESIA 09-014 – "SUPPORTING UNIVERSITIES

TO PARTNER ACROSS THE PACIFIC"

Dear Applicants:

The United States Agency for International Development Mission to Indonesia (USAID/Indonesia) is seeking applications from U.S. institutions of higher education that support USAID/Indonesia's development strategy through partnership activities between institutions of higher education in Indonesia and the United States. The Mission will award a series of Grant Agreements or Cooperative Agreements, subject to the availability of funds, for a period not to exceed three years, as described in the attached documents.

The purpose of this Annual Program Statement (APS) is to disseminate information about the program – Supporting Universities to Partner Across the Pacific – and to provide interested parties fair opportunity to submit applications for funding. This APS describes the motivation and objectives of program activities and explains the process and criteria for evaluating applications.

This APS is issued under the authority of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended. Awards shall be made and administered in accordance with 22 CFR 226 (US NGOs); OMB Circulars A-110 (Uniform Administrative Requirements for Cooperative Agreement and Other Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Nonprofit Organizations); A-21 (Cost Principles for Educational Institutions); A-122 (Cost Principles for Non-Profit Organizations); A-133 (Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations); USAID/OIG Guidelines for Financial Audits Contracted by Foreign Recipients; ADS 303; and USAID Standard Provisions for U.S. and Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients.

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Issuance of this APS does not constitute a commitment on the part of the U.S. Government to make an award nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a Concept Paper or application. Further, the U.S. Government reserves the right to reject any or all concept papers or applications received. In addition, final award of any resultant Agreement cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal USAID procedures, on which condition this APS is issued.

This APS and any future amendments can be downloaded from www.grants.gov. All interested parties are highly encouraged to register on www.grants.gov to receive automatic notification of amendments to this APS. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that it has received all application documents from Grants.gov in its entirety and that it has submitted all required documents for its application to be considered for which USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes. Interested parties having difficulty accessing the APS should address such to aps09-014@usaid.gov.

Any questions concerning this APS shall be submitted via e-mail to <u>aps09-014@usaid.gov</u> no later than August 14, 2009 at 4:00 PM, local Jakarta time.

Sincerely,

Asuncion L. Juico
Agreement Officer

USAID/Indonesia

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SECTION I

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. BACKGROUND

USAID/Indonesia supports a broad range of development challenges in Indonesia such as sustainable management of forests, marine fisheries and energy; government that delivers; increased quality of basic education; effective health and family planning services; and increased employment. USAID welcomes new approaches for linking academic institutions to development problem solving and innovation; and therefore, increasing the quality of higher education institutions in Indonesia is one of USAID's top priorities for 2010-2014 in support of its new strategy. The United States and Indonesia are working to strengthen their comprehensive partnership where education has been identified as a top priority by both governments.

According to the Indonesian Ministry of National Education, higher education is central to the economic and political development of the country and vital to competitiveness in an increasingly globalized and knowledge-based society. With 2,800 institutions of higher education under its purview, the Ministry has embarked on an ambitious course to improve its colleges and universities as student enrollment continues to increase. Reforms are addressing areas such as academic quality assurance and relevance, university management and governance, and university financial management, which include efforts to provide opportunities for Indonesia's poorer students. USAID supports these areas of policy reform while also helping to strengthen individual institutions so they can excel within the changing environment.

There is a long history of collaboration between U.S. and Indonesian tertiary institutions. The collaboration has existed at many levels, including support for scholarships, exchange programs and research. Previous experiences clearly demonstrate the many advantages of collaboration between institutions. Thousands of Indonesians have received graduate degrees in the United States and many now hold high positions in government and business. The course offerings and syllabi of many Indonesian institutions are similar in design to those found in the United States. Many faculty members were educated in the United States or Europe. Today, the forces of globalization and international communication make the sharing of information even easier. Indonesian institutions of higher education can benefit greatly from collaborating with U.S. institutions to improve management systems, curriculum relevance, teaching methodologies, stakeholder collaboration, and staff development, especially in the research and technical fields that are critical for Indonesia's economic competitiveness and economic development.

B. OBJECTIVE

The objective of this APS is to stimulate academic collaboration in priority sectors by providing seed funding for innovative university-based partnerships that contribute to the objectives of USAID's new strategy. The efforts of this program are directed at helping to increase the capacity and contributions of Indonesian institutions of higher education to address longer term

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sustainable development priorities in Indonesia. This partnership activity is the first of several components that will comprise a broader and more comprehensive USAID/Indonesia Higher Education Initiative. More information about this initiative and the rest of USAID's programming is available within the USAID/Indonesia Country Strategy 2010-2014, http://indonesia.usaid.gov/en/Article.350.aspx. An additional resource, "Assessment of Higher Education Institutional Capacity in Selected Geographic and Subject Areas" is available in Annex 1.

C. AREAS OF CONCENTRATION

Applicants are welcome to submit Concept Papers with regard to any area that has a well-articulated connection to the objectives of the USAID/Indonesia Country Strategy. Areas of particular interest, however, illustratively could include the following:

Cross-cutting priorities such as:

- Strengthening science and technology¹, supporting basic and applied scientific research and connections with industry groups.
- Improving public administration and management².

Sectoral priorities such as:

- Improving teaching, research, and extension services on agriculture productivity, particularly with regard to key agricultural commodities such as cocoa, coffee, and horticultural products (fruits and vegetables);
- Improving teaching and research on fisheries and climate change, and improve the applications to local government needs, such as local regulation, licensing, and zoning;
- Improving public health services and administration in clinics, labs and community outreach in the areas of health systems strengthening, reproductive and maternal child health, and infectious disease;
- Supporting effective governance through improved teaching in the areas of policy making, public management, and advocacy;
- Improving the quality of teacher training institutions;
- Improving economic research and analysis for public policy implementation; and improving economic policy environment for inclusive, rapid and sustainable economic growth.

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¹ Historically, the majority of academic collaboration between institutions of higher education in the United States and in Indonesia has focused on social sciences, including anthropology, political science, and economics. Stimulating deeper collaboration in Science and Technology helps grow future generations of scientific leaders in both countries, and also deepens the scientific base of knowledge of issues that Indonesia is geographically and historically situated to lead, such as geology, marine and forest science, and climate change.

² Legal education is another important sectoral objective, which will be addressed in a separate program.

D. ILLUSTRATIVE RESULTS

The proposed university-to-university partnerships should achieve results that are concrete, tangible, and provide benefits to all partners. It is expected that these partnerships will result in clearly measurable improvements to university teaching, research, and the service/outreach capabilities of Indonesian institutions of higher education. Examples of the intended results of such institutional collaboration include, but are not limited to, the following:

- New approaches to linking academic institutions to development problem solving and innovation.
- New instructional approaches that address the needs of government or industrial clients.
- Increased participation of Indonesian students and faculty in internationally-recognized research.
- More opportunities for U.S. graduate students to conduct dissertation or post-doc research at partner institutions.
- Increased faculty exchange between partner institutions.
- Improvements to instructional methodology and curriculum.

E. INTENDED PARTNERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS

To be considered for the possible receipt of USAID funding, a proposed partnership must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be aligned with the development challenges prioritized in the USAID/Indonesia Country Strategy 2010-2014;
- 2. Include at least one institution of higher education (such as colleges and universities) in the United States, and at least one in Indonesia with the preference for a partnership that also supports at least one "regional" institution in Indonesia;
- 3. Be based on an appropriate needs assessment of the institutions which must be evidenced in the application;
- 4. Be based on demonstrated demand by industry or practitioner associations to employ the students graduating out of the proposed program or otherwise demand the skills and knowledge being developed;
- 5. Provide equitable benefits to all members of the partnership while meeting the needs of the Indonesian institution(s);
- 6. Achieve a significant result, beyond a sequence of activities, which must be clearly articulated in the application;
- 7. Include a cost-sharing of at least 30% from the member institutions; and
- 8. Provide evidence that the partnership will be continued and sustained following the end of the Agreement program and after USG funding.

For purposes of quickly initiating this partnership program, however, the First Phase competition of this APS is limited to organizations that meet these additional criteria:

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- 9. Preference for a United States institution being designated as the "lead" institution in the partnership;
- 10. Preference for institutions with the management capacity to oversee the partnership activities of multiple university partnerships;
- 11. Preference for institutions having demonstrated experience in the technical area being proposed; and
- 12. Preference for institutions having demonstrated experience implementing similar programs for USAID or similar donor agency.

SECTION II

APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. APPLICATION PROCESS

USAID/Indonesia invites interested organizations to submit brief Concept Papers that demonstrate an innovative approach to strengthening higher education institutions in Indonesia in partnership with similar institutions in the United States. Concept Papers should identify the university partners, demonstrate the approach, and describe results that could be achieved should funding be awarded by USAID, but do not need to be in the format or detail of a full proposal. USAID intends to fund up to 10 partnerships during FY10³ with an approximate value of \$200,000 to \$650,000 each, and with a period of performance up to three years in length.

USAID/Indonesia will keep this Annual Program Statement open for a period of one year from the date of issue, and will review concept papers in phases as follows:

Deadline for Submission

First Phase September 8, 2009 Second Phase February 26, 2010 Third Phase June 25, 2010

Applicants interested in being considered for funding during the First Phase should submit Concept Papers via e-mail to aps09-014@usaid.gov by September 8, 2009.

Successful applicants will be notified in writing if USAID will request them to expand the Concept Paper into a full proposal application. Details of the requirements for a full cost and technical proposal will be provided to such successful applicants at such time. Applicants should not prepare full proposals unless specifically requested to do so by USAID/Indonesia's Office of Procurement.

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³ For the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2010 runs October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010.

B. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Concept Papers must be written in English and typed on standard 81/2" x 11" (216mm by 297mm paper), single space, 12 point font with each page numbered consecutively. The Concept Paper should include three sections and should not exceed ten (10) total pages. The cover page is not included in this page limitation. Concept Papers are to be presented in the following format:

- a. <u>Cover Page</u>. The cover page should identify the names of all organizations in the proposed partnership with the lead or primary applicant clearly identified.
- b. <u>Technical Narrative</u>. A narrative of no more than nine (9) pages should outline the following:
 - Goals Describe the goals of the partnership.
 - Problem Definition Define the problem and provide an analysis of the context.
 Demonstrate adequate assessment of the needs of each institution. Demonstrate adequate understanding of the demand for the proposed services.
 - Technical Innovation Describe the technical approach to be used to achieve the goals of the partnership, types of activities, and general sequencing. Demonstrate how the proposed partnership benefits all members, and explain how or why the proposed approach will be more successful or effective than other development approaches.
 - Sustainability Describe how the university-to-university relationship can be sustained after USG funding.
 - Beneficiaries Describe the proposed scale of the activities, estimated numbers and types of beneficiaries, and geographic spread.
 - Expected Results Outline the expected results and the mechanisms proposed to measure progress, achievement and sustainability.
 - Partners Profile Provide a profile of the institutions involved in the proposed partnership, with a brief description of their operating history and management structure. Clarify any past experience between the partners and describe the division of responsibilities in the proposed partnership.
 - Administrative Capabilities Describe technical and administrative experience and capabilities, including a description of any related past performance and implementation of similar programs.
- c. <u>Budget</u>. Provide a one-page budget that clearly identifies the major costs line items, such as personnel, travel, training, cost-sharing, etc.

C. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

USAID/Indonesia has established an Annual Program Statement (APS) Committee to review and evaluate all Concept Papers received. Only those Concept Papers which meet the initial consideration criteria outlined at Section I.E, Intended Partnership Characteristics, will be considered and evaluated by the APS Committee.

The Concept Papers will be competitively evaluated against the following criteria in descending order of importance:

1.	Technical quality and innovation of the concept paper, including having clear objectives and goals, and impact potential	35	points
2.	Demonstrated results to be achieved, beyond a sequence of activities	20	points
3.	Technical and administrative capacity to manage proposed program	20	points
4.	Cost effectiveness and value of cost share contributions	15	points
5.	Demonstrated experience and track record of the applicants in the proposed area of work	10	points
TOTAL		100	points